



Attorney Docket: 381AS/50347
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MINORU HASHIDA ET AL.
Serial No.: 09/942,120 Group Art Unit: 3677
Filed: AUGUST 30, 2001 Examiner: D. MELWANI
Title: SEAL MECHANISM AND FUEL PUMP PROVIDED
THEREWITH

jeff
6/a
11-13-02

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

The following is responsive to the Office Action mailed on or about August 1, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS:

(A marked-up version of the amended claims is attached to this Amendment.)

Amend Claims 1, 3 and 10 as follows:

aib
1. (Amended) A seal mechanism, comprising an annular retaining member, a flexible member molded in one piece with the retaining member and having a flexible tip to perform a sealing function, and a stress reduction mechanism for reducing the stress generated in said flexible member constituted.